

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application  
PCT/EP2003/011366 filed October 14, 2003**

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the instant Specification, without prejudice, as follows:

Please delete all text above line 8 of page 1, including the heading "Prior Art".

At page 1, above line 8, please add the following new section heading, the title of the invention, the second new section heading and paragraph, and the third new section heading:

--TITLE OF THE INVENTION  
Concentrated Surface-Active Preparations

**RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 claiming priority from application PCT/EP2003/011366 filed October 14, 2003; claiming priority from European application EP 02023572.7 filed October 23, 2002, the entire contents of each application are incorporated herein by reference.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--**

At page 2, at line 21 thereof, please delete the section heading "Description of the Invention", and insert in its place the following new section heading, new paragraph and second new section heading:

**--BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

This invention relates generally to surface-active substances and, more particularly, to water-based preparations of amphoteric or zwitterionic surfactants, more particularly betaines, which are distinguished by a low paste viscosity despite a high-active substance concentration.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--**

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At page 9, immediately above line 1 thereof, please delete the heading "CLAIMS" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

--What is claimed is:--.

Please add new page 11, an Abstract of the Disclosure.